

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The other thing I would like to point out is that they did not to any one in my district say, thank you for the increase to state aid, gosh, property taxes went down, because it didn't happen. Our property taxes went up and I suspect in your district the same thing did too. And we increased state aid. So, in summary, I would like to leave with a couple points. Number one, if you want to spend \$36 million over two years that you don't think we have and do not want to seriously do anything on property tax, fine, go with it. If you want to take some responsibility and say, I understand this does not help property tax, I understand we don't have the money, I understand we have to choose, and I understand, senators, that other bills, such as LB 89, will have to stand on their own merits, then support this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Abboud, would you care to discuss the amendment?

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, I would like to give my time to Senator Schmit.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, ladies and gentlemen, I hope you all go home and read LB 611 and read it very carefully because, as I read it, the same people are going to pay the tax whether you pay it through income tax or whether you pay it through property tax. Now there's one little difference. If you make the entire State of Nebraska a school district, throw the money into the pot, and then we support schools out of that pot, then my folks out home are going to like, but I don't think Senator Withem is going to like it. I don't think Senator Bernard-Stevens is going to like it. And about that time, Scotty, the support for your bill is going to fade, it's going to go down the road. But that's all right, that's going to...we can argue about that the first few days of the next session when we have a lot of time. I'm going to ask a question and Senator Withem is right, he says Schmit says a 100 million is no good but 18 or 20 million is good. My principal point of contention, Senator Withem, is that while we can't afford the 18 million here and LB 84, I don't